



News Release

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DoD Biometrics Brings on Leading Biometrics Industry Experts

*Former West Virginia University Professors Help Expand
Biometric Testing & Evaluation Capabilities*

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 30, 2004 – Department of Defense Biometrics today announced that Michael E. Schuckers, Ph.D., and Stephanie A. C. Schuckers, Ph.D. have begun consulting with the Department of Defense (DoD) Biometrics Fusion Center (BFC) in Clarksburg, West Virginia to support ongoing DoD Biometric Testing and Evaluation (T&E) efforts. The BFC is augmenting its T&E capabilities to begin assessing biometric products for durability, stability, and performance in a variety of controlled environments. Dr. Michael Schuckers will work on developing a population testing framework, which will compute error rate accuracy of biometric devices through statistical methods. Dr. Stephanie Schuckers will focus on creating a sensor & algorithm testing framework, which will look at specific components of biometric devices, assessing these components both individually and as a system.

“There is a fundamental need within the Department of Defense to assess biometrics beyond just the notion of ‘will it work?’” said Sam Cava, Director of the Biometrics Fusion Center. “Having Dr. Michael Schuckers and Dr. Stephanie Schuckers – two highly respected biometric authorities in the academic community – on our staff will greatly expand our Testing and Evaluation capabilities.”

“We are excited to contribute to making better use of biometrics in support of national security objectives,” said Dr. Michael Schuckers.



Dr. Michael Schuckers is an Assistant Professor of Statistics at St. Lawrence University. He has received funding to conduct biometric research by the National Science Foundation and the Center for Identification Technology Research and has published his research on the use of statistics to assess biometric performance. Dr. Schuckers received his Ph.D. in Statistics from Iowa State University, A.M. in Statistics from the University of Michigan, and B.A. in Mathematics from Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Stephanie Schuckers is a Research Associate Professor in Electrical Engineering at Clarkson University. She has received numerous grants from the National Science Foundation and has published her research on the subject of biometric liveness testing. Dr. Schuckers received her Ph.D. and M.S.E. in Electrical Engineering Systems from the University of Michigan, and B.A. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Iowa.

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The Department of Defense (DoD) Biometrics Management Office (BMO) is responsible for leading, consolidating, and coordinating the development, adoption, and use of biometric technologies for the Combatant Commands, Services, and Agencies, to support the warfighter and enhance Joint Service interoperability. The Biometrics Fusion Center (BFC) is the test and evaluation unit of the BMO. The BMO reports to the Army Chief Information Officer (CIO/G-6) who acts on behalf of the DoD Executive Agent for Biometrics, the Secretary of the Army. The recently formed Identity Management Senior Coordinating Group provides senior-level, DoD-wide strategic guidance to the BMO, given its mission to oversee efforts in the areas of Biometrics, Public Key Infrastructure, and Smart Cards.